

Adams 12 Comprehensive Human Sexual Education (CHSE) Guidelines

The District prioritizes a caring, safe, and inclusive approach to comprehensive health education. The District's Chief Academic Officer oversees these Comprehensive Human Sexual Education (CHSE) Guidelines, which reflect the requirements of state law and Colorado's Academic Standards for Health.

The District follows this sequence for comprehensive health education:

- 5th grade: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Choices Unit in Science
- 7th grade: Healthy Decision Making Unit in Science
- High School: required Health Elective Class

The requirements listed below shall apply to any comprehensive health education course offered by the District as it pertains to comprehensive sex education:

1. Comprehensive sex education must be medically accurate, age-appropriate, culturally sensitive, and use a positive youth development approach. Topics must include:

- methods to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (including HIV/AIDs, HPV and cancer);
- information about the correct and consistent use of abstinence and contraception (including all FDA-approved forms of contraception, condoms, and other barrier methods);
- promotion of the development of healthy relationships, to include:
 - how to communicate consent, recognize communication of consent, recognize withdrawal of consent, and understand age of consent;
 - how to avoid making unwanted assumptions about a person's supposed sexual intentions based on that person's appearance; and
 - all pregnancy outcome options, including but not limited to adoption, abortion, parenting, and safe haven laws; and
- the health needs of intersex individuals or lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender+ individuals.

2. Comprehensive sex education must include resources, references, and information that are meaningful to the experiences and needs of all students including:

- communities of color;
- immigrant communities;
- lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender+ communities;
- people who are intersex;
- people with physical or intellectual disabilities; and
- people who have experienced sexual victimization.

3. As required by state law, comprehensive sex education instruction must be free from the following:

- shame-based or stigmatizing language;
- gender stereotypes; and
- abstinence only.

4. In accordance with state law and [District Policy 6220](#), the District shall notify students' parents/guardians in writing prior to student participation in a District-approved comprehensive sex education course or topic. The notice to parents/guardians shall include a detailed, substantive outline of the topics and materials to be presented. Students for whom parents/guardians have submitted a signed exemption request shall be provided with appropriate alternative activities.

5. To provide additional information to students' parents/guardians regarding the District's comprehensive sex education curriculum, the District shall take the following steps:

- elementary and middle schools will host a parent information night a month prior to the implementation of the 5th or 7th grade health units in science class; and
- schools shall provide students' parents/guardians with an opportunity to review the materials to be used and to participate in a conference with the teacher and principal or designee to discuss their concerns and/or questions regarding the curriculum.

Approved by Chief Academic Officer: September 20, 2022

LEGAL REFERENCE: C.R.S. 22-1-128
C.R.S. 25-44-101 *et seq.*

CROSS REFERENCE: District Policy 6220, Controversial Issues